



## **Conservation Successes --- August 2003**

### **A Big Time in Big Sky Country**

#### Grand Opening for New Park and Trail

Big Sky, Montana (August 11, 2003) – Over one hundred supporters and future users came together for the grand opening of the Ousel Falls Park and trail at the town of Big Sky, Montana. The three-quarter mile trail winds along the West Fork of the Gallatin River to one of the area's most scenic waterfalls. Local trail supporters were joined by representatives of Montana congressional delegation for a festive day that included a ribbon-cutting at the new trail head, a hike to the Falls, and a luncheon hosted by the Yellowstone Club.

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program of the National Park Service provided technical assistance to the Big Sky Owners' Association by conducting public hearings for the trail plan and helping find funds to aid in its implementation. The project's success was due to a pioneering collaboration among the landowners and developers in the Big Sky community, the USDA Forest Service, and the support of the Gallatin County Commissioners. For more information, please contact Hugh Osborne, Community Planner, at [Hugh\\_Osborne@nps.gov](mailto:Hugh_Osborne@nps.gov) or 303-969-2781.

### **Surplus River Access Site Becomes Addition to Waterfront Park**

#### Community obtains permanent access to Yazoo River

Greenwood, MS (April 18, 2003) –The National Park Service's Federal Lands to Parks program transferred the Greenwood Boat Ramp to the community of Greenwood for an addition to their community riverfront park. This 1.24-acre property includes a boat launching ramp, open space, and a scenic overlook on the Yazoo River. Formerly acquired and developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for boating access, the property will be further developed and operated as a part of Greenwood's Veterans Memorial Park and Arboretum, the community's only riverfront park. Valued at just over \$10,000, the property is significant because it provides the only direct boating access to the Yazoo River in Greenwood. NPS Federal Lands to Parks staff negotiated the transfer. For information, please contact Bill Huie, Federal Lands to Parks Program Manager, at [Bill\\_Huie@nps.gov](mailto:Bill_Huie@nps.gov) or 404-562-3175.



Photo: Access to the Yazoo River, Greenwood, MS



## Brainerd Mission Cemetery Becomes Newest Certified Site

Recognizing Cherokee Nation history on the Trail of Tears NHT

Chattanooga, TN (June 11, 2003) – A signing ceremony was held at the Brainerd Mission Cemetery to officially recognize the newest certified site on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, one of 23 trails in the National Trails System (NTS). At the height of its operation, Brainerd Mission consisted of 50 acres and some 40 buildings. Since the 1930s the cemetery has been owned and managed by five Chattanooga chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the Chattanooga chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). Future plans at the cemetery include development of new wayside exhibits, a site bulletin, and new national historic trail signs. For more information, please visit the Trail of Tears NHT website at [www.nps.gov/trte](http://www.nps.gov/trte) or contact Steve Burns, NTS, at [steve\\_burns@nps.gov](mailto:steve_burns@nps.gov) or (505) 988-6737.

Photo: Pat Reed, Superintendent of Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park represented the NTS office to present the certificate to (left to right) Mrs. M. K. Bowen, DAR; (Pat Reed, NPS); Mrs. Sally Batts, DAR; Mr. James Moore, SAR; Mrs. Luanne DeWitt, DAR; Mrs. Marilyn Damman, DAR; and Mrs. Patricia P. Johnson, DAR.



## Community Kiosk Dedicated to Regional Recreation

Partners pull together to orient visitors to scenic North Cascades area



Darrington, WA (August, 2003)—The town of Darrington, WA, recently completed construction of a four-panel kiosk that provides visitors with information on regional recreation opportunities and historic points of interest. The kiosk was made possible by a \$10,800 NPS Challenge Cost Share matching grant and Darrington Area Recreation Partners (DARP). Key DARP partners include the town of Darrington, Darrington Historical Society, Darrington Area Rural Advisory Council, the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, US Forest Service, Washington State Department of Natural

National Center for Recreation and Conservation programs:

- Federal Lands to Parks (FLP) - Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) -
- National Trails System (NTS) - Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) -
- Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) - Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers (PWSR) -



Resources, and Snohomish County. NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (Rivers & Trails) staff provided technical assistance to help form and guide the development of DARP, and assisted with development of the kiosk which is located in Darrington's Old School Park and at one end of Snohomish County's proposed Whitehorse Rail-Trail. The kiosk serves as a one-stop guide to orient visitors to destinations and facilities managed by a host of regional providers. For more information, please contact Sue Abbott, Rivers & Trails Program, Seattle, WA, at [sue\\_abbott@nps.gov](mailto:sue_abbott@nps.gov) or 206-220-4116.

Photos: Darrington Recreation Area Partners Kiosk  
Old School Park, Darrington, WA



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Conservation Successes informs Department of Interior staff, conservation partners, and friends about the program successes of the National Center for Recreation and Conservation. For more details, please contact the staff person involved with each project.

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